

HILL SUPPORTS PEPPER.

HIS ATTITUDE A SURPRISE.

THE NEW YORK SENATOR TAKES ISSUE.

THE RESOLUTION OF INQUIRY INTO THE
METHODS OF NEW-YORK CITY AND OTHER

Washington, Aug. 28.—The shareholders' angry temper which is sure to show itself in the Senate at the slightest passage-at-arms over the financial situation broke out in a rather unexpected quarter this morning, when an excited and bitter debate was precipitated on Mr. Peffer's resolution of inquiry into the methods of business now being followed by New-York City and other National banks. The Kansas Senator's resolution read as follows:

Resolved, that the Secretary of the Treasury be directed to inform the Senate,

First, whether, and in what respect, the National banks, or any of them, in the cities of Boston, New-York and Philadelphia, are being now conducted in violation of law.

Second, whether said banks are paying depositors' checks payable in lawful money.

Third, whether said banks, or any of them, are demanding rates of interest higher than those provided by law for the loan of money or in discounting notes and bills.

Mr. Peffer's inquiry had been suggested by passages of last week's debate on the National Bank Circulation bill, in which the issuance of clearing-house certificates had been somewhat disapprovingly referred to. The resolution, of course, was aimed at Secretary Carlisle, as well as at the banks, and sought to convict him of allowing a relaxation of the law in the present emergency—a relaxation of which the banks were not slow to reap the benefit.

Mr. Peffer's course in offering the resolution was vigorously criticised as unpatriotic and injurious to the public welfare, by Mr. Hoar on one side and Mr. Voorhes and Mr. Gorman on the other; and Mr. Hoar promptly moved to sidetrack the inquiry by referring it to the Committee on Finance. This motion would no doubt have been carried and the resolution buried without further excitement if Senator Illi had not come, amid general amazement, to Senator Peffer's rescue. The senior New-York Senator took issue boldly with both Mr. Gorman and Mr. Voorhes, and favored a full examination of the present methods employed by the banks, in spite of the assurances of the two older Democratic leaders that the passage of such a resolution would force the abandonment of the only means of relief now available in New-York, and drive the National banks there to suspension.

Mr. Hill, in his two speeches, showed himself quite indifferent to the good counsels of his associates, being more anxious, apparently, to score a point with the anti-National bank sentiment of the Western and Southern Democracy than to reduce the Secretary of the Treasury to the position of the puppet of an inquiry clearly dangerous to public welfare in the present embarrasments of business.

Extended debate on the Peffer resolution carried it through the morning hour, and it was not until 12 o'clock that the Senate adjourned. It was taken up only by a majority vote. The incident, however, gave a striking indication of the ugliness of feeling latent in the Senate, where the slightest turn in debate may bring on at any time intense and bitter fighting, when the traditional equally established party lines and party friendships of the longest standing

The Senate took one vote on the Lee Mantle case to-day, and then, pending a motion to reconsider, adjourned until to-morrow.

On the face of the vote Mr. Mantle's title seemed to be a strong one, but it was so weak in fact that on a fair way to be rejected as spurious.

The vote on substituting the report of the minority for the report of the majority in the Judiciary Committee, which denies Mr. Mantle's title, for the repeal of the majority, which indorses it, was 34 yeas to 31 nays. Mr. Munderson subsequently changed his vote in the affirmative, and the following day, the totals were footed up officially as 33 to 30. Feeling, no doubt, that it would be better to fight the question out to-morrow, which a following day would be secured, the Senate adjourned without passing on the resolution as amended.

Although the rejection of Mr. Mantle's title will involve the loss of three seats to the anti-repealers in the Senate, the result is not so serious as it appears, similar to those pending from Wyoming and Washington, the vote on the minority resolution showed an utter lack of division on party, silver or anti-silver, or anti-repeal or pro-repeal. In Vermont, Vassar, Cooke, George, Mitchell of Oregon, Puffer, Kyle, Martin and other ardent free-coinage men joined with many Eastern Republicans and Administration Democrats to include the repeal of the law in the minority report, which was supported by both silver and anti-silver Republicans, and by both Administration and anti-Administration Democrats. If no chance occurs to-morrow in the Senate, the anti-repeal force will lose three votes which have been securely counted on so far, the members of the Senate for the present session will be reduced to 56, and five votes more for the repeal must be secured to repeal will be found an indispensable majority of the whole body.

THINGS GROW LIVELY IN THE SENATE.
THE DEBATE ON MR. PEPPER'S RESOLUTION
NATIONAL BANK CIRCULATION BILL—

THE LEE-MANTLE CASE.

Washington, Aug. 23.—Mr. Pasce (Dem., Fla.), in the Senate, gave notice of a substitute to Mr. Vest's minority bill for silver coinage at the rate of 20 to 1. The substitute proposes a commission of three citizens of the United States, to be appointed by the President, to ascertain and determine by January 1 next a fair and accurate ratio between the actual intrinsic value of the silver and gold as a basis for the new coinage of silver. After the result is reported to the Secretary of the Treasury, the weight of pure and standard silver to be contained in dollars, halves, quarters and dimes, and the value of each, determined by him.

The resolution offered yesterday by Mr. Peffer of Pop., providing for the inquiry of the Secretary of the Treasury as to the conduct of National banks in refusing to pay promptly in currency the checks of their depositors, was taken up; and a motion to refer it to the Committee on Finance was made by Mr. Hoar (Rep., Mass.), who said that in the time of popular distress and panic the Comptroller of the Currency should not be compelled to drive the National banks up to the strict letter of the law. The President had appointed as Comptroller of the Currency a man believed by him to be a clear-headed, capable man, who had been a banker, or speculator, or dealer in commodities; and this officer had not thought it best whenever any National bank was in difficulty to comply with the strict and

banks had declined. To the extreme letter of the law in dealing with their customers, to dragging them up to the rack. He thought it well to wait a week or ten days before "poking into that question too much." He had once heard General Grant say that the worst subordinate whom a military officer could have was the one who always obeyed orders.

Mr. Voorhes (Dem., Ind.), chairman of the Finance Committee, favored the reference of the resolution, and promised that it would not be buried in the committee.

Mr. Kyle (Pop. S. D.) argued against the reference, which, he said, would only mean the burying of the resolution. In the course of his remarks he spoke of the Secretary of the Treasury sending information, "gratuitously," to Senators—referring to Mr. Tiele's letter as to the cost of a change to a silver coinage. This insinuation was taken up by Mr. White (Dem., La.), who asked Mr. Kyle whether he knew that the Secretary had not been addressed in writing on the subject.

Mr. Kyle had no knowledge on the subject. Mr. Vest, however, quoted from the letter to show that it was written after a conversation with Mr. Voorhees. He, as chairman of the Finance Committee, had called upon the Secretary of the Treasury to ask him as to the feasibility of silver coinage at the ratio of 20 to 1; and he had requested him to put his objections in writing.

SENATOR HILL'S OPPOSITION.

Mr. Hill (Dem., N. Y.) opposed the reference, and insisted on the adoption of the resolution de-